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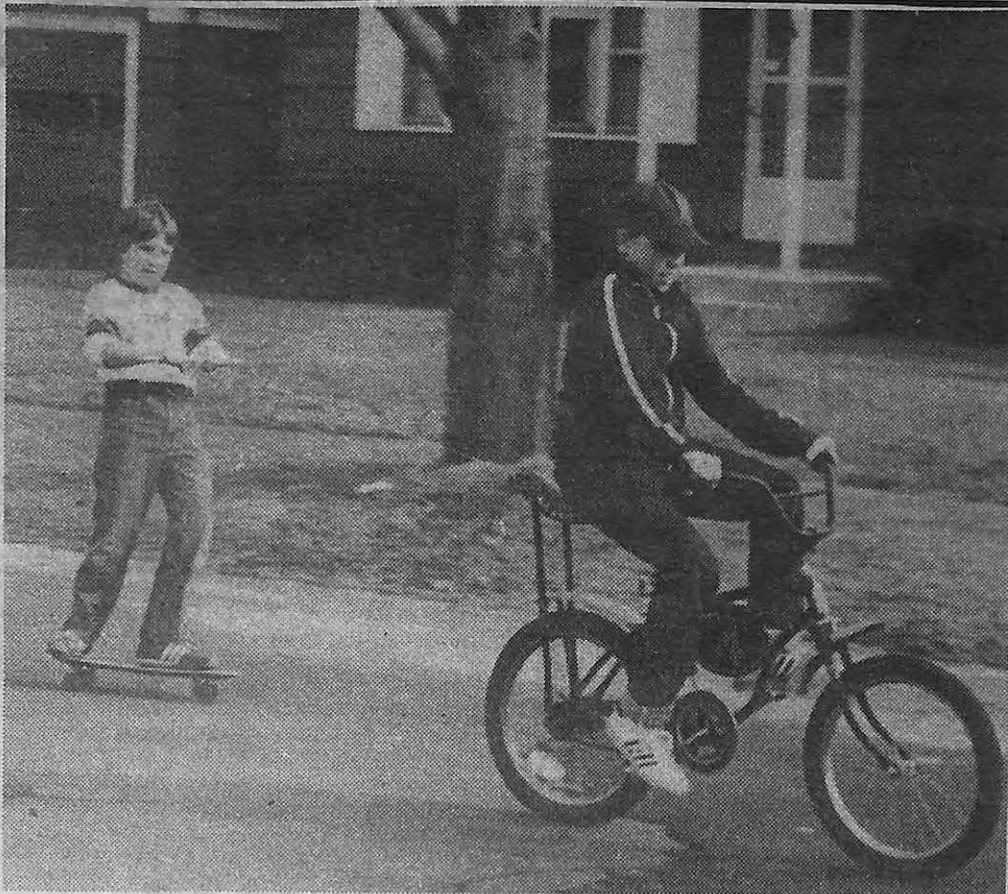


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Agawam's Weekly Hometown Newspaper

April 11, 1978



Spring is here as witnessed by Mark Petrucci on the skateboard and Matthew Dupont.
photo by Jack Devine

Planning Board Issues Statement Of Policy

Editor's note: this newspaper is publishing a statement of policy from the Planning Board. This statement is intended to facilitate and provoke thought at the upcoming workshops. As of press time, workshop schedules were unavailable.

Equal space will be allowed in the next issue to the Agawam Businessmen's Association.

To enlarge on the question of democratic principle versus the Planning Board's philosophy as expressed in the proposed zoning ordinance, may we, the Planning Board, take a few minutes to list the working processes of what we now have against the proposal.

Under existing zoning, allowing development by right, the applicant applies for a permit to the Building Inspector, who is also zoning officer by state law. This one person then reviews the plans for conformance to building code and zoning, inquires of the Department of Public Works for water availability and sewer connections, or to the Health Agent for on-site utilities. At some point, with essentially no required time frame, a building permit is issued or denied. Appeal is by Board of Appeals (rarely) or Superior Court. Two persons within the administration know what is going to be constructed, which must then be provided services by the Town. The neighbors find out later!

Under the proposed ordinance, for any new use other than public street residential, the applicant applies to the Permit Granting Authority - either the Board of Appeals or the Planning Board, depending on use as specified in the ordinance. The Authority must hold a public hearing within 65 days with notice to neighbors within 300 feet, and the town agencies which have an interest in the land, including those providing subsequent services, and the Building Inspector. Following input from all these persons, the Authority must grant or deny the permit within 90 days following the hearing. Otherwise the permit is granted by default (M.G.L. 40A as amended by Chapter 80B). Any "Wetlands Act" hearing can be held concurrently.

The Authority must make findings on all the issues raised, but is also bound by federal restraint of trade laws, of course. Therefore, any proposal which has been well thought through and the inherent site needs ad-

ressed, should expect to be positively received. The issues to be reviewed are written in the ordinance - this in itself is a restraint on unscrupulous decisions.

If the Permit Granting Authority is the Planning Board, anyone who disagrees may appeal to the local Board of Appeals, who holds another hearing and reviews the matter within an 89 day time frame. If the Board of Appeals is the Permit Granting Authority, appeal is to Superior Court.

Should a zone change be needed, the zone change application is submitted at the same time to the Council - your elected officials - and the Planning Board public hearing for the zone change can be held the same day as the permit hearing - involving all the neighbors. The Council, under the Charter, also proceeds with its public hearing during the same 65 day time frame so that from date of first submission, the applicant has his answer from Council within 100 days and from Permit Granting Authority in 155 days maximum.

The Council can determine whether new development shall occur only where we can now provide services, or whether the town shall provide new services to the proposal - and when. That issue involves our tax dollar in a substantial way. Furthermore, should the zone

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Pack 75 Pen Sale

Cub Scouts from Pack 75 will hold a pen sale from April 1 thru the 15th. Proceeds from the sale will be used to sponsor a bus trip for the Pack in May. Prizes will be given to the three top salesmen. First prize is a 10-speed bike; second prize, a cassette tape recorder; and third prize, a calculator.

REORGANIZATION: To The People

At last Monday's meeting of the Town Council, a motion to reject the Reorganization Plan as submitted on September, 1976, was defeated by a vote of eight "no", six "yes", and one absent.

Before the vote, Councilman Ken Barnes urged the Council to save the voters the expense of a special election by passing the motion to reject. Town Manager, Peter Caputo, on the other hand, urged the Council to defeat the motion and thereby send the question to the voters in the form of a special referendum vote. Caputo stated, "the machinery is in effect and like any human plan, it has it's frailties...let the people speak." He compared the reorganization plan to a "vehicle in need of repairs, but a vehicle that is running."

Councilors voting in the affirmative for the motion to reject the Reorganization Plan were: Herd, Ladizuski, Roberts, Barnes, Bartnik, and Cincotta; with those voting against the motion being Councilors Fieldstadt, Landers, McNamara, Nardi, Paleologopoulos, Serra, Theroux, Colli. Absent at Monday's meeting was Councilor DeForge.

Also on the agenda at Monday's meeting was the question of the status of the Chief of Police and civil service. Town Counsel, Attorney Jay Posnik reviewed the issue with the Council and stated that in his opinion, the results of the special referendum to re-instate the position of Chief of Police to Civil Service must be sent to the State Legislature as the "official resolution of the

people", and thus request that the Legislature repeal their initial act. In Posnik's view, the term "non-binding" that was applied to the special election simply meant that the voters did not have the power to change the Legislative act themselves, but by the referendum, are petitioning the State Legislature to repeal their previous act and put the position of Chief of Police in the town of Agawam back on the rolls of Civil Service.

A motion was made by Councilman Ken Barnes to send the results of the special referendum vote to the legislature as a reflection of the will of the people. Before the vote was taken, Councilor Theroux stated that this vote was "the most distasteful vote he has had to make on

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Councilor on School Board Proposed

At last weeks Charter Commission meeting in which the Commission met with former elected town officials for input, State Rep. Edward W. Connelly, R-Agawam, proposed a revision in the Charter which would allow the Town Council to appoint one of its members to sit on the School Committee.

Connelly stated that the move would "strengthen public accountability" of both groups, and said that "the council, as the town's legislative body is accountable to the people and I think they should be provided with direct representation on the committee."

Presently, a three-member council sub-committee attends school budget hearings as guests without voting privileges.

Connelly, a former selectman, also suggested re-districting the town into three precincts in order to insure that each voter would be able to vote for a majority of the Council members.

This plan would have two councilors elected from each precinct, and three at-large councilors. Connelly did say, however, that numbers did not matter (regarding the composition of the Council), as long as the citizens had a chance to vote for a majority of the Council.

Former councilor Valentine Moreno addressed the Commission and predicted the defeat of the upcoming referendum of the town reorganization plan. Moreno said that the people must have a choice as to which form of government they want, and that the referendum would not be able to give them that choice.

Former selectman Raymond Charest suggested the council should be cut to seven members; former library trustee suggested that all town officials be elected; and Irving LaFleur commented on the desirability of more accountability in government.



E. Howard & Son Clock as it stands in the yard of Mr. & Mrs. Harold Benson, Main Street, Agawam.

photo by Jack Devine

CLOCK ON MAIN STREET

In 1968, Harold and Anna Benson of Main Street, Agawam purchased an old clock from the owner of the "Auburn" Block on Main Street in Springfield. The block was leveled to clear the way for construction of I-291. The clock, which Mrs. Benson estimates to have been manufactured sometime in the late 1800's, is a wind-up model which still keeps accurate time.

The Bensons have made

some repairs to the time piece, such as replacing the original crystal - which had bullet holes in it inflicted at its former location - and replacing the dial. The clock, which was manufactured by E. Howard & Son, Boston, Mass., needs to be wound only once a week, stands as a monument to the past as well as a reminder of the present - keeping time for those who travel past it.

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Zoning Casualty...

Mrs. D's Country Store Forced To Close



Shown above: Mrs. D's Country Store, 311 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills. The store is owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph DiFlumera.

Mrs. D's Country Store, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph DiFlumera and located at 311 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, has been forced to close its doors. The forced closing is the result of a court order handed down by Superior Court Judge Smith on November 29, 1977. The actual closing had not occurred by presstime, Friday, April 7, but was expected to be carried out by Mr. Joseph Conte, Agawam Enforcement Officer on "the first available workday, which will probably be Monday, April 10," according to Mr. Conte.

Mr. Conte explained the circumstances of the forced closing: a complaint was filed by an abutting neighbor, Mrs. Cavanaugh, based on a non-continuous use of a non-conforming special permit. The land in question, although presently being used for commercial purposes namely the general grocery store, was re-zoned residential A-2 in 1950. The store had been operating since under a special permit.

According to Mr. Conte, the land and store has been commercial since the mid twenties. At various times, there was Gustafson's Gas Station,

Point of controversy: Mrs. D's Country Store with abutting neighbor. Both are zoned residential A-2.

a general grocery store, a warehouse and assembly (of brushes), and back to general grocery/gift store. The property was bought by the present owners in 1976 after obtaining the Zoning Officer's opinion that the special permit would be continued and the property would be allowed to operate commercially.

The suit filed by Mrs. Cavanaugh was based on a reverting use by residency in the structure. Mrs. Cavanaugh stated in court that the premises were used for residential purposes for a sufficient period of time as to break the continuity of commercial use and thereby the property in question should revert to Residential A-2.

Mr. Conte, harsh in his criticism of the legal defense offered by the defendants and the Town's attorneys, was quite upset at the prospect of serving the legal papers on the DiFlumeras. Mr. Conte pointed out that this ruling has hurt the DiFlumeras emotionally and financially. "This is probably their life savings and now the property is useless... the building is a white elephant. It is an accumulation of materials called a structure that has no use. It doesn't conform to residential use, it can't be used for commercial use, it isn't a garage, shed, nor does it have any other known use. These people have been had,

and I'm not blaming the judge."

Mr. Conte acknowledged his legal duty and responsibility to carry out the judgement of the Court but questioned the fairness of a decision which affected the livelihood of people so much. A piece of property which has been used for business purposes for over fifty years suddenly becomes a burden on the owners.

Mr. Conte was not only critical of the defense presented by the attorneys, but also in the failure to communicate with the DiFlumeras once a closing date had been established. According to Mr. Conte, the court order placed responsibility with the plaintiffs counsel to establish an actual closing date with the defendant's lawyers. On February 3, this year, a closing date of April 1 was decided on. As of presstime, the DiFlumeras had not yet officially been notified and only on April 7 had Mr. Conte received official notice to close the store on April 1, 1978.

The DiFlumeras have vowed to appeal the decision but meanwhile, Mrs. D's Country Store, with its entire inventory sitting on the shelves, becomes a zoning casualty. The DiFlumeras have posted a notice in the window of their store: they extend their thanks to the area residents who have shopped at the store and have become such good friends.

Planning Board Statement

continued from page 1

change be granted, the permit guarantees that what is proposed will be constructed.

The Building Inspector - Zoning Officer, continues to review for conformance to the building code and remains the enforcing officer for all.

Zone changes presently are submitted to the Council, with Planning Board and Council both holding public hearings. Under the "old" state law, applicants have been known to wait eight months for an answer, and the town could not guarantee the final use of the land other than any permitted use in the district. This inclined the Planning Board and Council toward negative attitudes. The "new" state law at least holds the zone changes to a 100 day time frame, but, of itself, does not guarantee the final use of the site.

WHAT IS DEMOCRACY?

1. "Doing your thing" with only two persons knowing what service the town must soon provide? Or, having neighborhoods, and affected agencies, know ahead of time so they can point out issues to be answered, and plan for delivery of services?

2. Providing the applicant with a definite guideline, answer date, and documented decision?

3. Should our Council continually have to vote money to bring services to development after the problems arise, or should our elected officials be able to plan to extend services in a logical way within the ability of the tax rate under the Capital Improvement Program?

4. Is the greatest number of persons being involved in their town's development

who, with the town's elected and appointed officials, become positive partners in its citizens future, an undemocratic principle? Is it too much to expect citizens to want the convenience of shopping and services and jobs, and to be a positive part of non-residential growth? We don't believe businessmen are unmindful of their neighbors.

5. Citizens could widely participate as well under this Council-Manager form of government as we did under Town Meeting. Or is the growth of the town to substantially continue by building permit from the office of the Building Inspector alone?

6. Cost to applicant? - The plans that he should have anyway to intelligently develop (and must have to finance) plus the cost of advertising the public hearings and recording the decision in the Registry of Deeds. Small cost compared to all the citizens' cost of providing expected services to ill planned development.

7. Negative Aspects - Every zoning ordinance, by its nature, restricts some individual rights to develop in the interest of the safety and welfare of the community.

Thank you for reading through. Comments are welcomed.

AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

Natalie C. George
Robert S. Bergin
Barbara J. Cook
Arthur J. Fuchs
Ronald R. Huot

April Is Cancer Month



On Monday, April 3, 1978, Council President Richard Theroux (r) and Town Manager Peter Caputo, presented a Town proclamation to Cancer Crusade Chairman Ruth Zucco. The Proclamation proclaimed April as Cancer Month in the Town of Agawam. photo by Jack Devine

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SWEET LIFE ALL BEEF FRANKS 99c lb.

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Captain Noburn and His Fire Danger Spots

Captain Noburn fire prevention programs were created by Mabel Van Delinda, owner and art director of the Mabel Van Delinda Advertising Company, Springfield, Mass.

Technical Advisors for the programs are Deputy Fire Chief Russell D. Jenks, Agawam

Technical advisers for the programs are Deputy Chief Russell D. Jenks, Agawam Fire Department, Deputy Chief James Messer, West Springfield Fire Department and James Loomis, Principal, Granger School, Feeding Hills.

The object of the program is to focus attention on fire prevention in the home and to seek out and correct the fire danger spots in the home. This a classroom program designed for easy presentation to grade school students. The teaching methods used in the Captain Noburn program include the basics for child learning - See...Hear...Participate.

The pupil sees the slides, each frame a full color presentation of where fire danger spots are found in the home. The pupil hears a Captain Noburn tape recorded message, telling him what the slide picture is showing, and the pupil participates by using the booklet provided, thus allowing him to take the booklet home and obtain assistance from the parents in finding and correcting the fire danger spots. The teacher is requested to show the slides and sound tape to the pupils and follow up with a classroom discussion. A booklet is provided for the pupils to take home.

The programs are geared to the various grade levels in the elementary school system with such aids as coloring books, games, and awards for children who participate.

During the past two weeks, Deputy Chief Jenks, and Fireman Ed Bobeck have been visiting the various elementary schools in town with the Captain Noburn program. Jenk's expressed gratitude to Westbank who "have been very cooperative in providing the materials we use in the classrooms."

Brush Disposal Reopened

The Department of Public Works will reopen the brush disposal off Tennis Road on Saturday, April 15. The area will be open for the use of Agawam residents between the hours of 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. every Saturday during the spring, summer and autumn. All those using the area must have a disposal permit card which can be obtained at the D.P.W. Office. An attendant will be on duty to direct residents. Only stumps, brush, branches and leaves will be accepted for disposal.

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Captain Noburn visited Phelps School recently. Shown from left are: Louise Brooks, Dave Hallock, Jane Barrett, Fireman Ed Bobeck, Danny Bryden, Jill Goss, and Dawn Cook. photo by Jack Devine

Reorganization. . .

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the Council". He termed it "non-progressive" and said that it was a step backward for the present form of government. Councilor Paul Fieldstad abstained when the vote was taken. Voting "yes" on the motion were Councilors Herd, Laduzski, Roberts, Serra, Theroux, Barnes, Bartnik, Cincotta,

and Colli. Voting "no" were Councilors Landers, McNamara, Nardi, and Paleologopoulos.

Other items on the agenda were: an appropriation of \$13,000 from "Free Cash" to the Charter Commission Account to enable the Charter Commission to retain an advisor to guide them in their

work on charter revision. The motion was passed with all present voting in the affirmative.

An application for a Class II Dealer's License from Richard Melloni to operate Dick's Texaco, 830 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills was denied. A number of fund transfers from one budget account to another budget account were all passed.

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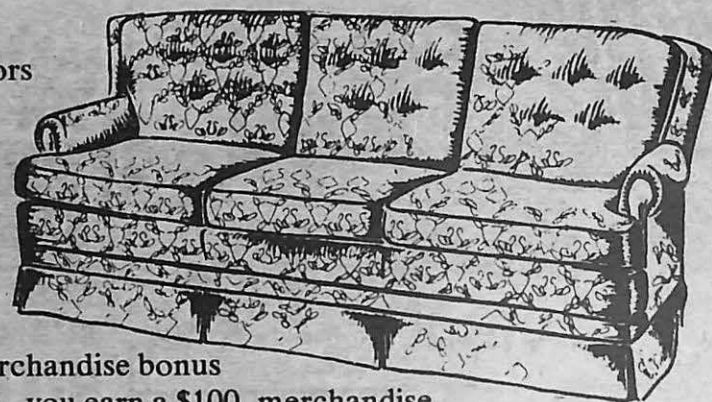
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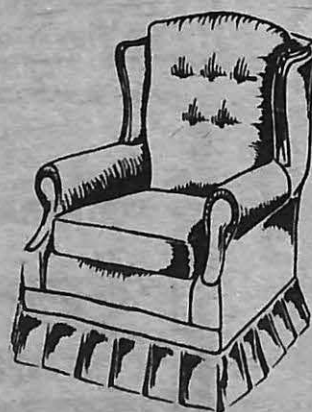
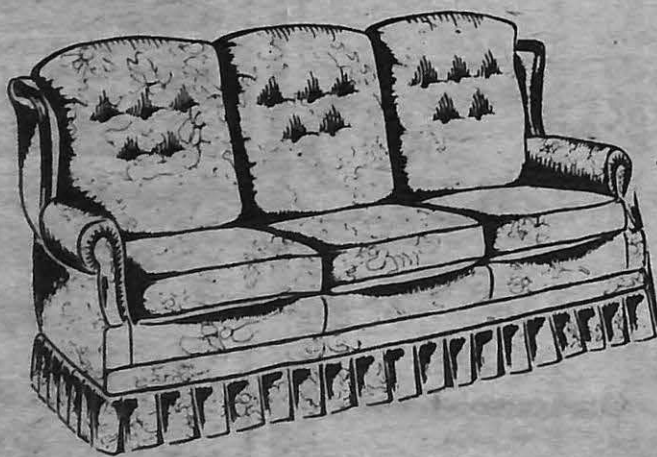
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Forest Park Kiddieland Zoo Open

The Forest Park Zoological Society announces the opening of the James P. Heady Kiddieland Zoo on Sunday, April 16th, weather permitting!

Not all exhibits will be completed for opening because of the coolness of the weather, however, there will be much to see.

Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday and Holidays.

The Kiddieland Express narrated train ride will be running same hours.

For more information call Mr. Lester I. Thomas, President, Forest Park Zoological Society, 567-5988.



Riverside Roller Rink fell victim to a demolition crew last week. The roller rink was leveled to increase parking and ease traffic flow at Riverside Amusement Park. photo by Jack Devine

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• 1 lb. Hygrade Skinless Franks

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School Committee Denies Bus Monitor Request

School bus drivers requested the School Committee appropriate \$25,000 for bus monitors to ride all middle and junior high school bus routes next year.

Business Director James Coon advised the committee not to include funds for the monitors in the transportation budget for the next fiscal year. He said that instead, a two-member subcommittee is meeting with the bus drivers and the bus contractor Joseph Ferrari to develop a policy with more stringent rules and more severe penalties for infringements of the rules.

Coon also said that the new policy, when adopted will spell out the penalties, and copies will be mailed to all parents of students scheduled to ride busses next year.

The two members of the subcommittee are Mrs. Jesse Fuller and Joseph Napolitan. Both hope to make parents more aware of their responsibilities concerning the behavior of their children on the busses.



Cub Scout Pack 79, Den 4 toured the police station recently. Here the scouts tried out one of the cells in the jail - just for size. They are from left: Back row-David Giordano, Timmy Bryant, Chris Wood, and Timmy Tlusty. Kneeling are Steve Ryan, left, and Dana Delsky. photo by Jack Devine

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The Agawam Rotary Club as a community service project have made a presentation to the Agawam Police Department for equipment needed, but not provided by town Budget Funds. The Rotary Club, president, Ray Pieczarka [third from right] is making the presentation to Agawam Police Chief, Romeo Borgatti and Officer Don Loncto as Floyd Bryan [left], Don Morris [second from right] and Ray McCarroll [right], all Rotarians, look on. The Rotary Club is planning a public auction as their next fund raising project that in turn will be used to furnish a room in the new town library. That date is Saturday, July 8th, on the Westfield Savings Bank lawn, from 10-4, rain or shine. photo by Jack Devine

New Buildings and Renovations for Eastern States Exposition

George Jones, General Manager of Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, has announced a nearly \$1 million planned expenditure in 1978 for new buildings and renovations to existing buildings.

The first stage of building is now underway as the "Cow Palace", built in 1917 to house livestock during the fair, is being demolished. It will be replaced with a new cattle barn, to be completed by August 15 in time for the September Fair. Construction will begin as soon as the demolished building is removed.

The new cattle barn will be built on the same spot where the "Cow Palace" has been located and will be the same size. Its design will be in keeping with the architecture on the grounds, and will be concrete block with simulated brick facing on three sides. The south side of the building will be metal faced.

Twelve interior columns will support the standing seam, flat design roof and the floor will be concrete. It will accommodate 500 head of livestock (same number as currently housed in the Cow Palace) in portable stalls and will have adequate lighting, electricity and plumbing to handle all types of exhibits and shows. It will compare to modern cattle exhibit facilities being built today. It will be fully ventilated, using vent fans and will contain public restroom facilities. Estimated cost on this building project is \$700,000. Edward J. O'Leary Company of Southampton, Mass. is the builder.

Also planned is a new horse barn to be constructed in an open area behind the Thode Island building and next to the outdoor horse ring. Slated for completion in mid sum-

mer, the 100 stall barn will be 20,000 sq. ft. with a dirt floor, asphalt center and cross aisles. Sliding doors on each stall will open to either the center aisle or the outside.

Included in the upgrading of horse accommodations is the renovation of a horse barn which was built in 1918 and is being given a new roof, improved dirt floor and sliding doors on all stalls. This is a 7,500 sq. ft. building and renovations will be completed May 15. Estimated cost of the new building and renovations to the older facility is \$200,000. It raises the horse accommodations from 500 to 600 and helps to keep the Big competitive with other horse show facilities in the north-east.

Additionally, a new colonial style carriage shed, housing eight 12' x 12' exhibit stalls in a 1600 sq. ft. area will be constructed in Storowton Village to extend the amount of fair time exhibit space and to accommodate more museum craft classes in the summer. The stalls will feature overhead doors and a 5' overhang to protect the public in inclement weather. The \$25,000 project will be completed mid May in time for Village summer activities. The new horse barn, renovation project to the small horse barn and the carriage sheds are being built by Northeast Pole Builder, Inc. of Slatersville, R.I.

This building project is the first of its magnitude since the original structures were built in 1916 and 1917.

Jones explained that the Big E's Board of Directors has decided to undertake the rebuilding of the cattle barn at this time because of a structural weakness discovered in the south wall. The new horse facility, the reno-

vated horse barn, and the Village carriage sheds were planned primarily for the improvement and the modernization of the plant and for the continued enjoyment, by fairgoers, to the Big E.

Library Adult Discussion Group

The Agawam Public Libraries would like to begin a Great Books Discussion group for adults in the near future. A meeting will be held on Thursday evening, April 13th at 7:30 P.M. at the Agawam Center Library to make future plans for the group. Anyone who is interested please plan to attend.

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Annual Spring Cleanup

The Department of Public Works will conduct the Annual Spring Cleanup during the period of May 8 through May 19. This service is provided so that residents may dispose of items not collected during the regular bi-weekly refuse collection.

All items to be taken must be placed on the treebelt by 7 a.m. of the scheduled collection day. All small or loose items must be placed in plastic bags or in metal or plastic containers not larger than 30 gallons in capacity. All metal objects, demolition materials (lumber, plaster, bricks, etc.) and tires must be placed in separate piles. NO tree stumps, lawn rakings or branches will be picked up. Lawn rakings and brush are taken in the regular refuse collections. Stumps and branches may be taken to the disposal area off Tennis Road on Saturday mornings. The cleanup will be on the alter-

Agawam Conservation Commission to Meet

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, April 13, 1978, at 7:30 P.M. in the Town Administration Building Hearing Room, 36 Main St.

The Agenda is as follows:
7:30 P.M.: #87071 - Bondi Island - City of Springfield - Cells 4 through 11. Public Hearing. Request to perform work subject to the Wetlands Act.
8:00 P.M.: Natural Resources Planning Program - Warren Archey, Extension Service

and Charles Dauchy and William Warren, Soil Conservation Service - Speakers.

Agawam Planning Board and Historical Commission - guests.

Other Business - Town of Agawam, Ramah Circle Brook, emergency work. Florida Drive - Brien Subdivision - discussion. On-site inspection form - discussion.

Any other business that may come before the Commission.

nate week from the regular refuse collection and it is scheduled as follows:

May 8 - Route 6
May 9 - Route 7
May 10 - Route 8
May 11 - Route 9
May 12 - Route 10
May 15 - Route 1
May 16 - Route 2
May 17 - Route 3
May 18 - Route 4
May 19 - Route 5

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Every Wed. - 7 P.M.
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Spring Arts and Crafts Festival

South Deerfield Congregational Church will hold its Spring Arts and Crafts Festival on Saturday, May 20 (rain date: Saturday, May 27), from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on the lawn area surrounding the church.

Artists and craftspeople are invited to participate and demonstrations are encouraged. A festive atmosphere will prevail, with music provided, entertainment for the children, and refreshments available. This will be an excellent opportunity to view and purchase arts and crafts, talk with area artists and craftspeople, and mingle with your neighbors after a long, hard winter.

Persons interested in participating should contact Aaron or Viluna Jennings (665-2909 after 6:00 p.m.) for information. Space is limited and we want a good variety of high quality arts and crafts. Won't you join us?

In Our Town

by Edith LaFrancis

People who know what was on Ramah Circle land before the factories occupied it are not the least surprised at the condition of it now.

This land was for forty years the source of a water system which furnished water to families along Main Street down to South Street. It also provided water for the horse trough and schools at Agawam Center.

Scattered along the hillside from a point in back of Zayres around to Suffield Street there are about twenty-four springs, from which water flows winter and summer.

In 1877 a vote for a publicly owned water system was defeated in town meeting because the proposal would benefit only Agawam Center.

One of the backers, C.L. Goodhue, who had installed water systems in about fifty towns and cities, then installed a system as a private enterprise. He built a reservoir and laid about three

miles of four inch reinforced concrete pipe through Agawam Center, later adding pipe to South Street and a short distance on Elm.

In 1915 Mr. Goodhue's widow sold the Agawam Water Company to Charles Hull. This included 28 acres of land between Rowley Street and Suffield Street where the source of water was located, also all rights to construct and repair pipes, to enter upon land for such construction and repair and all rights to springs, pipes and reservoirs.

Charles Hull kept this for about two years and sold it to Preston Worden.

At the end of four years Mr. Worden sold the "Five-acre Lot" on which the best of the springs were located, to the Strathmore Paper Company. The quality of the water had been found especially good for paper making. He also sold to the Company a quarter of an acre of the original Leonard land on Springfield Street Hill. Strathmore Company built a pumping station there, between the road and the parking lot.

Mr. Worden kept one spring for his own use. It lay shaded by trees in a natural bowl north of the five-acre lot and supplied the two Worden houses at the corner of Springfield and Suffield Streets. When these houses finally connected to the new Springfield system, the old pipe was turned into the brook which flowed under Springfield Street into the river. Good drinking water was available from this pipe winter and summer and children had the habit of stopping there on their way home from school.

A prospective buyer, testing the fifty-acre meadow land, broke the pipe. Thus ends the story of the Agawam Water Company and there begins the trouble the factories are struggling with today; a developer made a decision to construct buildings in a swamp.

It was always a marshy meadow and in early days bog iron was dug there. Those springs are going to continue to gurgle cheerfully from the earth and soak into the shopping and industrial center.

The idea of "conquering Nature" is long gone. There is nothing to do but cooperate.

The natural drainage of this marsh is toward the river at a point just east of the SIS Bank. Can these springs be guided in their natural line so that they join with one another to form a fair sized free-flowing stream that



Cub Scout Pack 77 Den 4 on tour of the Police Department find out what it is like to be fingerprinted. Back row R.J. Giratti, Robert Gaynor, Craig Albano, Jeff Walters, front row Jason Kornberg, Chris Bowry, and Den Mother Janice Walters (left rear). First graders in Ms. Lisa Astifan's class at Phelps School recently learned what it would be like to be in the hospital. Volunteers from Providence Hospital presented the program for all first graders in the Agawam School System. Pictured are left to right Todd Bousquet, Melissa Blackburn, Jacqueline Nelson, Judi Sweeny, Kernaw McPharlin, Nathan Bowers and Susanne LaFluer.

Special Ed Transit Plan Proposed by School Officials

By Dan Maruszczak Jr.

would go under Springfield Street to the river?

Well, carry that one step farther, -- plant grass and flowers beside it, cross it by bridges and name it "Shopping Center Creek"! Or even "Ramah River".

Or shall we move the factories to a safe place between the rocks in some hill town and leave this land for what it was supposed to be -- ground-water storage.

How often this same situation arises; someone constructs a building in a swamp, disrupts the natural drainage and then expects the Town Office to wave a magic wand or in some way to legislate him and his building out of the mud.

The Inside Story

If you have ever wondered what an animal is like on the inside, the Springfield Science Museum is the place to find out during this Discovery Workshop. Designed for families with children 8 years old and above, the workshop will investigate animals on the inside by dissecting various prepared specimens.

All materials and supplies will be provided and a fee is charged to cover the cost. The Inside Story will begin on April 15, and meet for 3 consecutive Saturdays from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. The Inside Story is one of many Discovery Workshops offered by the museum. Registration is required and will be accepted until April 13. Call 732-4317 or 732-7911 for information or visit the museum on the Quadrangle.

School officials from ten local communities will meet at the Agawam Jr. High School this April 25th to propose a joint transportation program to improve out-of-town bus service for special education students.

The proposed program is expected to significantly reduce the cost of transportation of students, which is being funded by a \$4,000 grant from the State Board of Education. The plan will include Agawam, Westfield, West Springfield, and Southwick.

Also expressing interest in the program are Springfield, Longmeadow, South Hadley, Ludlow, Wilbraham, and East Longmeadow.

The program requires that class-2 school buses, which have a capacity of fourteen persons, bring students from the surrounding communities to their appointed schools. At present, limited school funds in Agawam have forced the system to transport the special education students in small vans to out-of-town schools, which only have a seating capacity of seven.

According to Business Director, James Coon, Agawam would save up to \$8,000 annually by participating in the program, which would provide adequate services to the town's special education students.

The small vans are presently proving too costly for the

town, since they carry too few students. Because of the high cost, the school system cannot provide direct service to the schools, with up to an hour ride to the school for some students.

Presently, the Agawam School System is transporting fifty four special education students to twenty out-of-town schools, at a cost of \$40,000. Coon estimated that figure could possibly be cut by twenty percent if the town participated in the proposed program.

The Lower Pioneer Valley Transit Authority is presently drawing up plans for the bus routes that will be taken through the various towns participating in the program. The maps are also being funded by the state grant.

Coon estimates that by getting a larger number of children in bigger buses, the cost of the transportation will be cut extensively. It would also be a first in the town of Agawam to get the special education students directly to the schools in the buses. The town would be able to bargain with one individual contractor, which would improve the contract bids. Under the present system, the contractor is maximizing his return, while Coon would rather see the situation maximize for the students.

Following the special meeting on the 25th, the Agawam School Committee will discuss the proposal.



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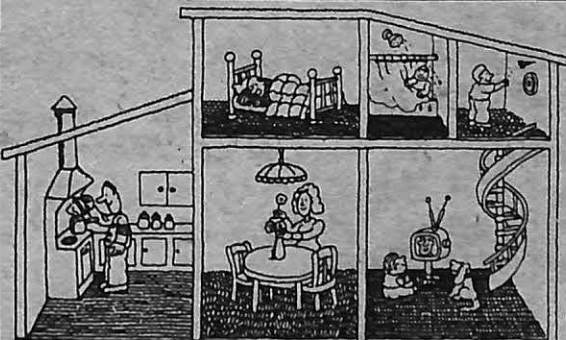
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Presenting the two-way radios to the Agawam Auxiliary Police Unit are (from left to right) Phil Fini, Polish American Club, Police Chief Romeo Borgatti, Auxiliary Police Chief John Devine and Nobby Adamski, Polish American Club.

photo by Russ Mansfield

Auxiliary Police Receive Radios

The Polish American Club of Feeding Hills, and the Bingo Committee have donated two portable 2-way radios to the Agawam Auxiliary Police Unit. The combined cost of the two units was \$770.

John (Jack) Devine, Chief of the Auxiliary Police noted the need for these radios since at

the present time the sixty five men in the Auxiliary Unit have no means of communication when on duty. Devine stated "if there were an emergency, the radios would be the only means of communication between the men and myself and Police headquarters." He said that at

least four more radios are needed.

A campaign is now on to raise funds to purchase the needed equipment. Any person or group wishing to contribute may send their donations to the "Agawam Auxiliary Police", 65 Main Street, Agawam, Mass.

HAP Rental Assistance

HAP, Inc. announces that it has received an allocation of 85 units of rental subsidy under the Section 8 Program funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, through the Department of Community Affairs.

Beginning April 18, 1978, HAP, Inc., will begin accepting applications for this program. Tenants participating in this rental assistance program pay about 25% of their income for housing costs and the agency makes up the difference by providing a subsidy directly to the landlord.

Applications will be taken by mail only between April 18 and May 26. Persons of low or moderate income, currently renting or wishing to rent in

Hampden or Hampshire Counties, should call 733-5004 in Springfield, or 1-800-332-9667 toll free from outside the Springfield area, to request that an application be sent to them. The application must be completed and returned to HAP, Inc. no later than June 1, 1978 for the applicant's name to be added to the waiting list.

Individuals who have made applications for housing subsidies or projects with any other agency must make a separate application to this program. Application to HAP, Inc. will not effect a person's standing on any other waiting list.

Eligibility for the program is based on family size and income. Individuals who are

62 or over, handicapped or disabled are also eligible.

At the end of the application period, a computerized lottery system will be used to select eligible applicants from the waiting list. Everyone who applies during the six week application period and is eligible according to the program guidelines will be placed on the waiting list. There is no priority for early application, but all applications must be requested by May 26, 1978 and returned to HAP, Inc. by June 1, 1978.

HAP, Inc. provides Equal Housing Opportunity without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual preference, ancestry, marital status, veteran status, welfare status, children or age.

Donald W. Stahle

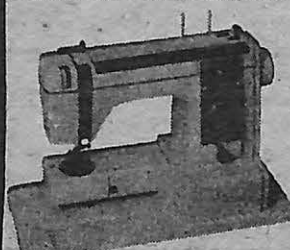
Donald W. Stahle, an Agawam High School graduate, class of 1953, was recently elected president of the Merchants National Bank of Manchester, New Hampshire.

Stahle graduated from Boston University and served with the U.S. Army before joining Hartford National Bank in Hartford, Conn. in 1958 as an Executive Trainee. He later graduated from Williams College School of Banking and the Credit and Financial Management Program at Harvard University. While at Hartford National Bank, he had extensive experience in Branch Management, investment, credit and retail banking and rose to the position of Senior Vice President, in charge of Hartford National's statewide branch system.

Stahle, his wife Janet, and their three children are looking forward to a new home in the Manchester area.

Donald is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Winslow A. Stahle of Albert Street, Agawam.

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Music Scholarship

Pioneer Valley Chapter of Sweet Adelines, Inc. will award a \$100.00 scholarship to a high school senior girl who is interested in furthering her musical education at an accredited college.

Application forms have been provided to high schools in Agawam, Springfield, Bel-

chertown, East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Hampden, Palmer, Westfield and West Springfield.

Students who want to apply should contact their school principals or guidance counselors for complete details. The deadline for applications is May 15, 1978.

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Editorials

The recent criticism of the Air National Guard stationed at Barnes Airport in Westfield should provoke some thought in Agawam. The National Guard has flown in and out of Barnes since before WWII. Within the last dozen years, new homes have been built around the base. The new homeowners knew that the base was there when they bought their homes; they knew that airplanes make noise; the new owners were free to buy or not to buy. . . no one forced them to buy in that location.

In the last few years, much heat has been generated between the new homeowners and the Guard because of excessive noise. The Guard, apparently, is moving to Westover.

This situation is similar to one in Connecticut where a new home was built next to a 600 acre farm but only 200 yards from a barn. Unfortunately for the new owners, their home was down wind. The judge agreed with the new owners that the barn should be moved.

These situations seem to bear some similarities to the closing of Mrs. D's Country Store and the current battle being waged over the proposed rezoning ordinances.

Evidently the principles of fair play and justice cannot make both sides happy. Someone must lose. Your interpretation of fair play, and to whom, will determine your side in the controversy. But we feel that making something legal may not be equivalent to making it fair.

Proclamation

WHEREAS The Right to vote in open and free elections is the cornerstone upon which our country was founded, and

WHEREAS The Constitution of the United States guarantees that right to all Americans, regardless of race, sex or creed, and

WHEREAS It is the duty of all Americans to exercise that right, and

WHEREAS All of our citizens who are eligible to vote must consistently participate in the electoral process to secure this precious right for future generations of Massachusetts citizens, and

WHEREAS The New England Conference of Secretaries of State and the Public Relations Society of America have initiated a comprehensive voter registration drive to increase the number of registered voters, and

WHEREAS The Voter Registration Drive, which will consist of activities on the regional, state, and municipal levels, will take place during "voter registration month" in April, 1978.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL S. DUKAKIS, GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF APRIL IN 1978 AS VOTER REGISTRATION MONTH

This paper is looking for a qualified part-time sales person. Please call for appointment between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. ONLY!



It's Amusing

by Bob Guevin

Last week's frog joke has brought forth a rash of awful jokes. I suppose I deserve them for printing that first one...but I learned my lesson.

Question: What do you get when you cross a fly with an elephant? Answer: A zipper that never forgets.

Question: What do you get when you cross the Agawam Post Office? Answer: Trouble and grief.

Last week was my second week delivering the "mounted route" in Feeding Hills. It was easy to tell which sections

were high class . . . their litter was imported green beer bottles instead of domestic beer cans. The old saying "class will show" has taken on a new meaning.

I am pleased to see the Springfield paper has risen to its full height of "Peter Principle" potential: the campaign to stamp out pot-holes may well be their journalistic highpoint of this year.

The Connelly Report



The Governor's proposal to increase the return of State Funds to cities and towns is rapidly approaching a disaster. We hear of projected surplus ranging from 134 million to over 200 million. The final figure is anyone's guess based on projected revenue from a continuing healthy economy in addition to the proceeds of the massive tax programs passed in 1975.

The juggling of formula factors to provide support in votes from cities and towns who will benefit from a one shot surplus accumulation is deteriorating the original purpose. I am almost convinced that I shall propose full pick-up of the cost of the Court operation, thereby providing immediate property tax relief through reduced county assessment for each community's share of court costs. Whatever balance of surplus does remain, a figure which could range from thirty to fifty million, should be used to increase state aid to education under the existing formula!

The Commonwealth must now anticipate a Supreme Court ruling, not unlike those applying to California, Wisconsin, Ohio and others, which forces the funding of the cost of education without reliance on the real property tax.

The whole thrust of the Willis Harrington Act in 1966 and subsequent passage of the Mass. Sales Tax was intended to do just that. Unfortunately, the Executive and Legislative branches saw fit to direct that revenue into Welfare burden and state mandated social programs.

In my opinion, we must be forceful in fromulgating zero base budget techniques, pass "sunset" legislation to eliminate programs with little or no significant purpose and fully implement sales tax revenues for educational costs without reliance upon the local property tax.

Rep. Edward W. Connelly
565 River Road
Agawam, Mass.

ABOUT THIS SERIES...

In the coming weeks, the AGAWAM Advertiser/News will be spotlighting various town officials. We began with the new Town Manager and are now featuring a member of the Town Council each week. We hope to eventually cover all Departments in town and thus hope to enlighten our readers and perhaps help them to become more familiar with their system of government and its members.

Francis A. Colli Precinct One



Francis A. Colli, 128 Maple Street, Agawam is serving his first term on the Town Council. Representing Precinct One, Colli is Vice-president of the Council.

During his campaign, Colli stressed the need for co-operation and discussion between the Town Council and the Town Manager. Colli stated: "We must be reasonable in our approach to the operation of our town govern-

ment. Only by cooperating with each other on the council and with the manager can we accomplish what needs to be done for the benefit of all the citizens."

Colli, a Network Manager with the New England Telephone Company, is also on the Agawam Advisory Board of Westbank. Colli is also a former member of the Agawam Finance Committee.

From the Editor's Desk

by Pat Guevin



My name is Pat Guevin, I am co-owner and editor of this newspaper. Bob Guevin, my business partner, is my brother-in-law, not my husband. My husband's name is Lou. Lou is our business advisor, and he is tired of being called 'Bob'. Believe it or not, some people have even called him 'Pat'. He asked me to please get this straightened out in the minds of our readers. Lou, my husband, is the one with the hair.

To further confuse the issue, there is a Bob Guevin who lives in Agawam. He told me that he receives a lot of phone calls concerning the newspaper. He is not Bob Guevin, the Publisher-he lives in Westfield. The Bob Guevin who lives in Agawam is my husband's (Lou) and my brother-in-law's (Bob) cousin. You see, Lou and Bob (from Westfield) are brothers.

Now that I've straightened that out, and you know who Bob and Lou and Bob are, I would like to ask you not to call me Pam or Barbara. Pam is the Bob Guevin from Agawam's wife-or better yet-my husband's and my brother-in-law's cousin-in-law. Barbara Guevin, from Westfield, is my sister-in-law. She is Bob's (the publisher) wife.

I can see where this could become a little confusing, especially if you are not familiar with the Guevin family. Oh yes, there is another Bob Guevin-he's my nephew-Lou and Bob's brother Bill's son. But don't worry, he doesn't work for the paper-not yet anyway. We just might hire him to thoroughly confuse you.

While we're on the subject of names, the last name is pronounced 'Gavon'. If you just remember the Avon Lady with a 'G' you should be alright.

If you are still confused, don't worry. We're so used to the various names people call us, we'll answer to just about anything - well just about anything.

Letters to the Editor

To The Editor:

Enclosed for your consideration is an article on the reason for the mud at Ramah Circle. No need to introduce me to your readers; I have been writing for local papers for years.

I shouldn't be taking time to write articles right now as I am working on a history of the town, but this situation did seem to call for an explanation.

Best wishes for the success of your newspaper. The town really needs it.

Sincerely,

Edith LaFrancis

Editors Note: See "Our Town" Article by Edith LaFrancis, Pg. 6

To The Editor:

The Charter Commission gives the impression of having entered into their "fair

hearing" with minds made up to alter nothing. It appears that petitioners appear before the Commission and speak to thin air. The Chairman's reaction seemed to be "lets maintain my charter as is."

Edward L. Hottin

To the Editor:

Thank you for the coverage extended to the "Over-Thirty" basketball league this season.

Dan Greene

Publishers Note: This newsp-

Publishers Note: This newspaper would like to extend coverage to all sports in Agawam, but we need more citizen input.

So, how about a little help Moms, Dads and Coaches?

Obituaries

Ella Jordan

Ella (Gordon) Jordan, 89, of 55 Cooper St., formerly of Springfield, died Friday, April 7, at Wesson Hospital. She was born in Holyoke on September 30, 1888, and had lived in Springfield for 55 years until moving to Agawam a few years ago. She was the widow of John F. Jordan. She leaves one daughter, Eleanor Dumas of Agawam and two grandchildren. The funeral was held Monday, April 10 at St. Pierre and Son Funeral Home Springfield, with a liturgy of Christian burial in St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Springfield. Burial will be in St. Jerome Cemetery, Holyoke.

Joseph W. Treadway

Joseph W. Treadway, 72, of 1111 Westfield St., West Springfield, retired supervisor for the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co. with 42 years of service, died Thursday, April 6, in Mercy Hospital. Born in Shelby, Ill., he lived in Agawam many years before moving to West Springfield two years ago and was a member of the Valley

Community Church, Agawam. He leaves his wife, Katherine (Aiken) Treadway. The funeral was held Monday, April 10, at the Curran-Jones Funeral Home with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery, both of Agawam.

Ella Garvin

Ella (Allegra) Garvin, 51, of 142A Autumn St., a customer service representative of the Credit Bureau of Western Massachusetts, died Monday in Baystate Medical Center, Springfield. Born in Springfield, she lived in Agawam four years and was a member of the Shaker Farms Country Club. She leaves her husband Richard Garvin; a brother, Salvatore Caruso of Springfield; and five sisters, Sadie Brown of Agawam, Frances Pieri of West Springfield, Jean Jodoin of East Longmeadow and Jennie Zwiebel and Mary Nitri, both of Springfield. The funeral was held Wednesday, April 5 at the George B. Tazzini and Son Funeral Home with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery. Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Articles of general
interest will be accepted
for publication.

Hearing On Gas Rate Hike

Register of Deeds John Pierce Lynch of Springfield today lauded the announcement of the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities that a public hearing would be held in Springfield on May 2, in Room 218 at 7 p.m. concerning the 12 percent gas rate hike requested by the Bay State Gas Co.

Lynch called for a public hearing on the rate request at

a press conference last week. Lynch said, "I commend the DPU for scheduling a public hearing on the Bay State Gas Company's request for higher rates. I urge those who are interested in appearing at the hearing to contact me so that we can have an intelligent presentation of the facts. It is important that the consumers point of view be presented in the best possible way."

Agawam Senior Center

Wright Street, Agawam, Mass.

MENU

- April 10** Turkey fricassee in patty shells, stewed tomatoes, peaches
April 11 Soup du jour, rolls, cheese, apple pie
April 12 Pepper Steak, scalloped potatoes, lettuce, sheet cake
April 13 Lamb stew with mixed vegetables, potatoes, jello
April 14 Tuna salad, rye rolls, peas and carrots, bavarian cream
Monday, April 17 - Closed - Patriots Day

- April 18** Baked Beans, wieners, cole slaw, pineapple upside down cake
April 19 Meat loaf, squash, potato crinkles, fresh fruit
April 20 Ham quiche, green peas, ice cream w/cookies
April 21 Shrimp chow mein, rice, chinese noodles, lettuce, plums

Seniors who do crafts at home and would like to sell them can bring them to our Center and we will sell them for them on consignment basis. We have a large, lighted display case, and you would be surprised how many anxious buyers we have. This is an excellent way of earning some pin money so you can buy more materials for new projects.

The next hypertension clinic will be **TUESDAY**, April 18th, for names starting with L-Z. Come at 1:30 p.m.

We would like to start a **HANDYMAN SERVICE FOR ELDERLY BY ELDERLY**. If you are a retired carpenter, plumber, electrician or general Mr. Fix-it and would like to help some senior to repair minor jobs, and thus get out of the kitchen and earn a few dollars, please call Mr. Garvin 786-6814 for details. This is not steady employment, but occasional jobs that seniors need to have done. Pay is \$3.00. This program works very well in many communities, and besides the mutual benefits, you will make new friends and meet old friends, and know you still are needed very much. Interested? Get right up and call the above number.

Golden Age Club Classics

The members of the Springfield Golden Age Club will once again be performing in their musical show, "Classics". This is the twenty-sixth year that the show has been put on by the Golden Agers who help with its production in numerous ways. Many sing and dance in the show, others sell tickets and obtain sponsors who put advertisements in

the show's program book, and still others meet weekly to make costumes. The show will be at 8:00 p.m. on May 2, 1978 in Symphony Hall. The price of tickets is \$2.00 and these are available at: Springfield Golden Age Club, 45 East Court Street, Springfield or through members of the Springfield Golden Age Club. Get yours soon, you will not want to miss it!!

Program on Amphibians and Reptiles

Massachusetts Audubon Society's Laughing Brook Education Center in Hampden is having special activities dealing with amphibians and reptiles in cooperation with the Western Massachusetts Herpetological Society on Saturday, April 22.

Two special activities will take place at the 260 acre wildlife sanctuary. At 2 p.m. a live demonstration of local amphibians and reptiles will be given by members of the Herpetological Society. The program will focus on those types that are rare and unusual and particularly interesting. Afterwards, a natural history walk looking for amphibians and reptiles, from tadpoles to turtles, will be led by Laughing Brook's Staff Naturalist, Tom Tynning. The program is free to the public with regular Sanctuary admission.

For more information, call Laughing Brook any day at 566-3571

Information and Referral Service

The Information and Referral Service has helped over 4,500 Greater Springfield residents in less than a year. Requests for assistance range from simple to complex such as: the family being charged for roof repair work that was never done the elderly widow wanting help to wrap and mail a flag to the Cathedral of the Pines in memory of her husband; the six-year-old needing ambulance transportation from Springfield to Boston Children's Hospital, and the Westfield mother concerned about job training for her grown, retarded son. If you are also faced with problems, call the Information and Referral Service at 781-1220. A trained telephone specialist will answer your questions or refer you to necessary human services selected from a file listing of over 400 resources.

Both free and confidential, the Information and Referral Service is sponsored by the Community Council, an agency of the United Way of Pioneer Valley, and funded by the Dexter Fund and the City of Springfield.

This Week's Young Businessman

Kent Burgess, son of Mr. & Mrs. James Burgess of Roberta Circle, Agawam, is this week's "Young Businessman". Kent, an eighth grade student at Agawam Jr. High School is one of the Advertiser/News' more ambitious carriers delivering papers on not one, but two routes. Kent covers territory which includes a portion of Main Street; Charles and Alfred Streets; Trinity Terr-

ace; Alfred Circle; Barden Avenue; Alfred Court; Dover, Dartmouth, Deering and Autumn Streets; and Overlook and Riviera Apartments.

Kent's hobbies include playing baseball and hockey, and we understand that he's pretty good at both.

The Agawam Advertiser/News salutes Kent and thanks him for his service to the people of Agawam.



Kent Burgess

Decorators' Showcase Names

New Participants

The Springfield Chapter of Hadassah has added several new names of participants in its Fifty Annual Decorators' Showcase, May 7-21. Co-chairmen Betty Harris Friedman and Rickie Leiter have announced that Majorie Feil of the Decorating Den, Feeding Hills, will join the other fine area decorators in refurbishing the Birnie mansion, 127 Mill Street, Springfield. Also, for Crown Contemporary Furniture of West Springfield, Ernest Lay will be the decorator and Carol Retchin the consultant. Annamae Winter will be one of the decorators for Frank Reaulo Interiors of Enfield, a group consisting of Reaulo, Del Chabot, Nancy Leary and Dick Phelps.

Casual Corner of Enfield will be joining with the Beverly Shop of Longmeadow and The Merchant of Tennis of Agawam to provide informal modeling daily in the home. Showcase will also feature a wide variety of unusual boutiques to be located mainly in the Carriage House.

Hours for the May 7-21 Decorators' Showcase: Monday and Friday, 10-4; Tuesday through Thursday, 10-8; Sunday, 12-5; closed Saturday. Admission is \$3, ages 7-12, \$1.50; children under 7 not admitted.

"Flowers For All Occasions"

Agawam Flower Shop

705 Main Street
Agawam, Mass.

786-7427



"club in the country"
Banquets — Weddings
Dinner Dances — Social Functions
Conventions — Bar Mitzvahs
Under Supervision of
Vaad Hakashruth

SHOEMAKER LANE, AGAWAM
TEL. 786-0257 — 786-0313

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

APRIL 11, 1978

Agawam Garden Club
7:30 P.M.
Captain Charles Leonard House

APRIL 12, 1978

A.H.S. Track Parents Meeting
8:00 P.M.
Agawam High School

APRIL 18, 1978

Community Grange Meeting
7:30 P.M.
Grange Home

APRIL 13-14-15-16 1978

W.N.E.C. Drama Club
"Company"
8:00 P.M.
Sleith Hall W.N.E.C.

APRIL 14, 1978

Rummage Sale
10-2 P.M., 6-8 P.M.
Agawam Congregational Church
745 Main St.

APRIL 26, 1978

Meatball Supper
St. Anthony Rosary Society
5-7 P.M.
Middle School, Agawam

A public service of:



CURRAN-JONES
FUNERAL HOME

109 MAIN STREET, WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
745 COOPER STREET, AGAWAM, MASS.

DREWNOWSKI

announces
GREAT SAVINGS!!
on all their
POOLS

Why buy a pool from
us now?

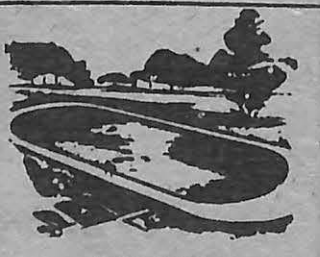
1. Because you SAVE! SAVE! SAVE!
2. Early Spring Installation - BEAT THE RUSH.
3. 10% Discount through April 15, 1978.
4. We're an established Company, installing and servicing pools for almost 20 years.
5. We service what we sell because we want Satisfied Customers.
6. We have a retail store with a full line of supplies and accessories.



KIDNEY



RECTANGLE W/STEPS



LONG OVAL

DREWNOWSKI POOL CO., INC.

1815 Main Street, Agawam

Call anytime 786-7214

Legal Notices Accepted

The Agawam Advertiser/News is very pleased to announce that we are a legally recognized publication for Legal Notices. Mr. John O'Brien, Registrar of Probate in Springfield and Hampden County has officially announced our acceptance by his office to publish Legal Notices for

the Agawam/Feeding Hills area.

We are pleased to call this to the attention of the legal profession and the citizens of Agawam. We encourage the use of our paper for Probate matters, Town Hearings, Lost Passbooks, and other legal notifications.

Troop 79 Paper Drive

Boy Scout Troop 79 sponsored by St. Davids Church will hold a paper drive on April 15, 1978. Newspapers, magazines, etc. may be dropped off at the church on Springfield Street, or call 786-6203 or 786-0200 for pickup. Proceeds from the drive will be used for Troop projects.

PLANT SALE

All
Green Plants

15% OFF

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PRICE

COLONIAL FLOWER SHOP

338 Walnut Street Ext., Agawam Shopping Center
Agawam, Mass. • 786-1447



School Lunch Menus

Menus for the week of April 10 - 14

Tues., April 11 - steamed frankfort on roll, mustard and relish, oven French fried potatoes, vegetarian beans in sauce, peanut butter cookies, milk.

Wed., April 12 - spaghetti with hamburger and tomato sauce, cole slaw with creamy dressing, Italian bread and butter, spiced applesauce, milk.

Thurs., April 13 - white meat turkey with gravy on whipped potatoes, buttered peas and carrots, cranberry sauce, rye bread and butter, chocolate cake with vanilla icing, milk.

Fri., April 14 - chilled apple juice, 1/2 tuna sandwich, 1/2 1/2 peanut butter and jelly sandwich, buttered niblet corn, ice cream sandwich, milk.

For the week of April 17 - 21, no school.

MALONE'S FARM & GARDEN CENTER

Don't forget your feathered friends

BIRD FEED

FERTILIZER • PEAT MOSS • CEDAR BARK
LAWN SEED • RAKES • SHOVELS, ETC.
LIME • SUNFLOWER SEED • HAY • GRAIN
STRAW • COW MANURE • DOG FOOD

338 SILVER ST.—786-2246

Polish American Club

Agawam, Mass.

BINGO

Every Tuesday Night

139 Southwick St., Feeding Hills
FREE COFFEE CASH PRIZES
Doors Open 6:15 - Early Bird Special 7:15

Smoke
Eaters
Installed

Progressive Bottom Line Bingo
on Hard Cards -
Starts at \$60 - up to \$200

New 766 Group Formed in Agawam & Feeding Hills

The Agawam/Feeding Hills area is pleased to announce the formation of the Hampden County Council for Special Education Services. The first official meeting will be held on April 11, at 9:30 a.m., at the United Way Building, 184 Mill Street, Springfield.

On March 29, at the same location, the new special services group sponsored a discussion session with an advocate from Legal Services along with a film on the CORE process.

Many Agawam residents have requested 766 workshops. These persons and anyone else who might have an interest in this subject are encouraged to join this new organization and help get special needs interest coordinated in our local area. Hope to see you at this meeting! For additional information, call Edna Condino at 562-5255.

Rotary Club Public Auction

The first annual Agawam Rotary Club Public Auction will be held on Saturday, July 8, 1978, 1-4 p.m. at the Westfield Savings Bank, grounds on Main Street, Agawam. Rain or Shine. All proceeds will benefit the Agawam Library Building Fund.

- NEW LOCATION - DOGSTAR CERAMICS

32 River Road
Agawam
786-0351

sign-up now for

SPRING CLASSES

MORNING/EVENING
CLASSES AVAILABLE

MON. thru THURS.

CALL FOR INFO.

★ Duncan Paints
★ Cross Kilns
★ Greenware

Sundays 12-4 P.M.



The Agawam Lions Club kicked off their annual light bulb sale which will be held April 15th-23rd by selling a package of the bulbs to Town Manager Peter Caputo. Shown, left to right, are Peter Caputo, Al Taupier, President of the Agawam Lions Club, and Robert Watson, Jr., Chairman of the sale. photo by Jack Devine

Colonial Stencilling Classes

Storowton Village Museum in West Springfield invites colonial-era decorative art admirers to join a series of four lecture-workshops on early American stencilling beginning April 12. Hosted by Donald O. Reichert, well known area artist and historian, the classes will cover the history and techniques used to produce the stencilled designs of the past for use in today's homes. The workshop will give participants the necessary techniques to stencil on walls, fabrics, floors, tin and wood articles.

In every period of our country's history, there has been painted decoration. Most furniture produced in the early colonies was painted or stained and frequently decorated. Reichert, along with many dedicated crafts people and historians, have meticulously researched the old methods of stencilling and preserved the patterns of the old-new craft which will be used in the classes.

Reichert, former director of the George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum in Springfield, is well known for his interest in our local heritage. His paintings and assemblages have been shown in museums and galleries throughout the East.

Classes will be held April 12, 26, May 10 and 24 at the Phillips House in the Village. Registration is limited and those interested in enrollment should call the museum office at 736-0632. Fee for the series of four lectures is \$17.50 for Friends of Storowton members and \$20 for non members.

Skatepark to Open in Chicopee

The first indoor skateboard park in western Massachusetts is being developed at the Pioneer Valley Ice Arena on Lemay Street in the Williamansett section of Chicopee. According to the park's General Manager, J. Paul Langton, the Pioneer Valley Skatepark will be the largest indoor park in the northeastern United States and will rank among the largest indoor parks in the country.

The all-enclosed 26,000 square foot building will also house a skateboard pro shop, restaurant, game room, shower rooms with lockers and provide a haven for safe skateboarding. Mr. Langton stated that the park will feature a slalom run, speed run, serpentine run, bowl, pipes, freestyle and jump areas along with various ramps and vertical banks. He said no other indoor park in the United States has the skateboarding variety that will be available at the Pioneer Valley Skatepark. For those less daring, a spectator area is available to watch the skateboarders perform their wheelies, daffy's 360's and space walks.

The park will have facilities for novice, amateur and expert riders and will be supervised to make sure that skateboarders know how to use the more difficult areas. All riders will be required to wear helmets, elbow pads and knee pads. Safety equipment will be available for rental at the pro shop.

The Pioneer Valley Skatepark will be the first park in New England to be sanctioned by the National Skateboard Association. A number of competitive events will be scheduled at the park in addition to skateboarding exhibitions for the public.

The first skateboard park was opened in March 1976 in Carlsbad, California. Today, there are approximately 200 parks in operation and new parks are opening at the rate of 3 each week. There are now over 20 million skateboarders and the industry has recently topped one billion dollars. Most skateboarding activity has been centered in the west and southwestern parts of the country and has just recently begun to expand in the east.

New Business Opens on Suffield Street

Claudio and Attilio Cardaropoli, Agawam and Springfield residents, are pleased to announce the opening of Claudio's Lounge at the Agawam Motor Lounge across from Rockys, on 23 Suffield Street in Agawam.

The lounge will serve sandwiches, grinders and businessmen's lunches at

reasonable prices, in addition to a full liquor license, beer and wines. Banquet facilities are available for up to 300 people.

Sporting a 7 foot color television screen, Claudio's invites area sports enthusiasts to stop in to watch the playoffs.

Agawam Lions LIGHT BULB SALE

Sat., April 15 - 22, 1978

Door to Door

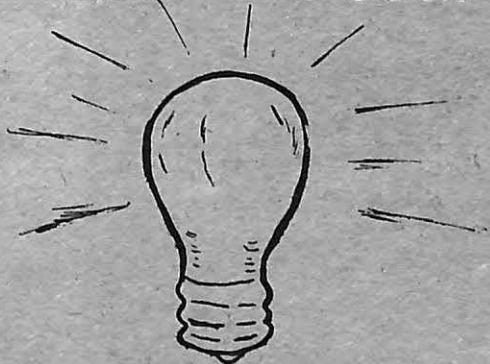
Jim Taupier

SALES 786-0778

Industrial

Jim Loomis

CHAIRMAN 786-5594



Proceeds
For Lions Sight and Hearing Fund

Buy A Bulb

Claudio's Lounge

23 Suffield Street - Agawam Motor Lodge
7 Days A Week - Kitchen Always Open

OPENING WEEK SPECIALS

Up to April 17, 1978

HOMEMADE GRINDERS
MEATBALL • SAUSAGE
COLD CUT • HAM & CHEESE
GENOA SALAMI

FRESH DELICIOUS SANDWICHES
ROAST BEEF • CORNED BEEF
PASTRAMI

DAILY LUNCHEON SPECIALS

CLAMS SCALLOPS
FISH PORK CHOPS

\$1.50

MACARONI MEATBALLS
MEATLOAF CHILI

BEER AND COCKTAILS

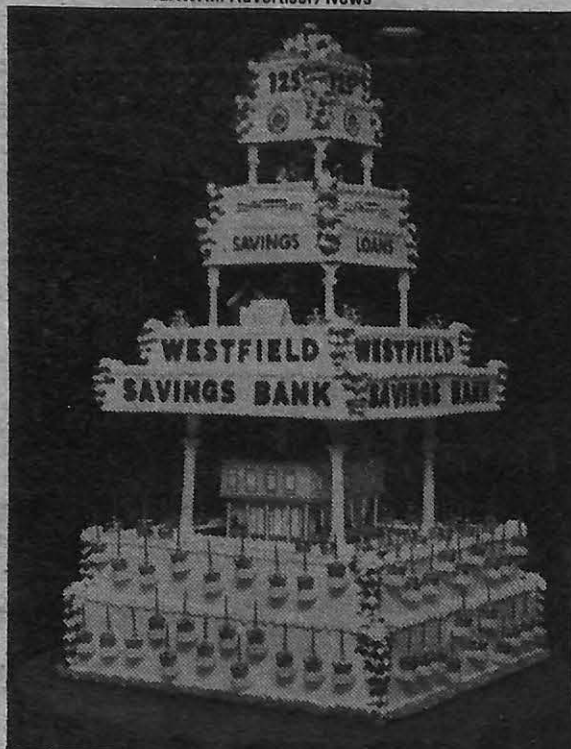
WATCH THE PLAYOFFS ON OUR 7 FOOT SCREEN

TAKE OUT SERVICE 786-8464

BANQUET FACILITIES • PARKING IN THE REAR • 786-8464

1853

HELP US CELEBRATE



125 Years Young

1978

OUR 125th BIRTHDAY

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR "OPEN HOUSE" APRIL 10 - 14

AT OUR MAIN OFFICE IN WESTFIELD AND OUR BRANCH OFFICES IN WEST SPRINGFIELD AND AGAWAM

BE OUR GUEST FOR BIRTHDAY CAKE AND COFFEE

30 VALUABLE GIFTS TO BE GIVEN AWAY

You could be the winner of one of these prizes, but only if you register by filling out a coupon at one of our offices Monday through Thursday. No deposit is necessary.

DRAWING OF PRIZES - FRIDAY, APRIL 14th

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| • RCA Color TV | • Basket of Cheer |
| • 7 x 50 Fast Focus Binoculars | • Jefferson Era Coin Collection |
| • Complete Fishing Outfit (Pole, Reel, Tackle Box, Lures, Hooks, Flies) | • Sunbeam Popcorn Machine |
| • Boston Rocking Chair | • Westfield Whip Co. Bullwhip |
| • Man's Sport Outfit | • Hoover Vacuum Cleaner |
| • Columbia Bicycle | • Fifty Quart Cooler Chest |
| • 400-Day Clock | • Grass Trimmer |
| • Smith-Corona Portable Typewriter | • Smoke Detector |
| • Bulova Wrist Watch | • Jewelry Box |
| • Sony Digital Clock Radio | • Beach Umbrella |
| • Polaroid SE Camera | • Chaise Lounge |
| • Samsonite Concord Luggage | • Complete Set of Garden Tools |
| • Slazenger Tennis Racquet and Balls | • AM-FM-PSB Sony Radio |
| • Week End for Two | • Student Lamp |
| | • Woman's Outfit |
| | • Vivitar 600 Pocket Camera |

This year, Westfield Savings Bank is 125 years old. Since our founding in 1853, we have helped create a lot of happiness in the form of home ownership and financial security because we have consistently encouraged thrift.

We have grown because of you, and for this growth we sincerely thank our customers, whose confidence and loyalty have made it possible. So... even though it's our birthday - you're receiving the gifts!



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703 MAIN ST., AGAWAM 786-1273

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WEDDING INVITATIONS
BUSINESS CARDS
(Raised ink)**10% OFF**500/\$12⁰⁰**OUR SERVICES INCLUDE**Statements, Letterheads, Envelopes, Resumes
Padding, Newsletters, Carbonless Paper**COPIES still \$3⁷⁵/100** (Camera Ready)Additional 100 Copies \$1²⁵

Social

**Jr Women's Club to Sponsor
Arts and Crafts Festival**

The Agawam Jr. Women's Club will sponsor their annual Arts and Crafts Festival the weekend of July 8, & 9, 1978, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, and from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

The show will take place on Main Street, south of the Rte. 57 overpass in Agawam Center. Facilities will accomo-

date up to 200 artists and craftsmen. The committee will limit the number of a particular craft category to the first eight entries of each type.

Further inquiries may be addressed to Paula Huber, 74 Liquori Drive, Feeding Hills, MA. 01030.

**Stageless Players
Present
Musical Comedy**

The Western New England College Drama Club. The Stageless Players will present the musical comedy **Company** by Stephen Sondheim and George Furth on April 13, 14, 15 and 16, Thursday through Sunday evenings at 8:00 p.m. in Sleith Hall 100 at Western New England College, 1215 Wilbraham Rd., Springfield. For reservations call 733-4952

This and That

by Steve Berard

Sign-ups for girl's and boy's fall sports will be held on April 15, 1978 at the Agawam Middle School cafeteria from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The sports will include football, soccer, and cheerleading. Coaches and helpers are needed, and anyone interested should contact the Parks and Recreation Department at the Town Hall.

There will be a Rummage Sale sponsored by the Ladies Aid of the Agawam Congregational Church on Friday, April 14th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The sale will be held at the Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

The Agawam Junior High School donated some pine and poplar coffee tables to the "Great Spring Auction". These tables were made under the direction of Charles Heyl, the woodshop director. The auction, whose proceeds go to public television will be held on April 8-15 from 6p.m. to midnight on channel 57.



Lori Stefanik

Lori Stefanik Engaged

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Stefanik of Lauderdale by the Sea, Florida, formerly of Agawam, announce the engagement of their daughter Lori Stefanik to Michael P. Kane. Parents of the future bridegroom are Mr. & Mrs. Michael T. Kane formerly of West Springfield and now residing in Marion Oaks Ocala, Florida.

The bride elect, a graduate of Becker Jr. College, is employed by Anderson & Benson Corp. as a secretary.

Her fiancé graduated from West Springfield High School and is employed by the Forty Niner Inc. as a manager.

An August 4th wedding is planned by the couple.

**Community
Grange to Meet**

The Community Grange will meet Tuesday evening, April 18th at 7:30 p.m. at the Grange Home on North West Street.

The Junior Grange will be our guests and fill the officers chairs. Jeffrey Hastings, the lecturer of the Junior Grange, is in charge of the program in which many members of the Junior Grange will be included.

A social hour will follow the program. George and Margaret Parrott are co-chairpersons of the refreshment committee assisted by Jacqueline Cavanaugh and Edgar and Annette Gillis.

**Phelps School
PTO**

The Phelps School PTO will hold a coffee hour with discussion to follow on Thursday, April 13 at 7:30 P.M.

**Congregational
Church****Rummage Sale**

The Ladies Aide of Agawam Congregational Church will hold a Rummage Sale at the church, 745 Main St., Agawam, on Friday, April 14 from 10-2 and 6-8. The event should have many interesting as well as desirable items.

Can a Small Town Newspaper Find Happiness In Today's Busy World?

Yes!

... if it's got what it takes to please its reading audience. ... local news, local events and local people. And we do. We don't care about the Red Sox or Bruins. ... we'll take the McCarthy Tile AA 10-12 team anyway. Because we know them. ... and you know them.

Yes!

... If we remain impartial and simply report the news. ... not make it. Our readers seem to enjoy our casual style and good humor. Why don't you support your local newspaper. ... send us your news. ... advertise your items in our classified section.

Now classified advertising may
be left at one of the
following places:

SODA CITY
Walnut Street
Agawam

DAIRY MART
Between Third National Bank
and Agawam Pharmacy
711 Main Street
Agawam

COLONIAL NEWS
39 Southwick St.
Feeding Hills

Or simply fill in the form and mail it to us.
We'll sell your unwanted item.

Country Western Lounge

formerly Circus and Cecelia's Lounge
Apremont Highway, Holyoke, Mass.
Hours: 12 P.M. - 2 A.M. 7 Days

Art Gokeys Country Swingers

Different Guests Every Show Night

Thursday thru Sunday
Show Charge \$1.00 per person
Plus Gifts and Surprises!!!

BUSINESS PROFILE:

Agawam Pharmacy & Medical Equipment

Agawam Pharmacy has been in its present location for 30 years and has been owned and managed by the Shore family for over 22 years. The pharmacy has grown with the town. Charles Shore is a past president of the Western Mass. Pharmaceutical Association and is presently very active with the Agawam Businessmen's Association.

end, Agawam Medical Equipment, Inc., was born. Edward Shore, a registered pharmacist and manager of the Agawam Pharmacy, founded A.M.E. in October 1977, with his wife, Fredlee.

Edward is a graduate of the Hampden College of Pharmacy, a division of the Mass. College of Pharmacy in Boston. He is currently the

breast prosthesis and ostomy care.

Aside from all this, they sell and rent all kinds of medical and exercise equipment. You can rent wheel chairs, hospital beds or breathing machines as well as being specially fitted to a custom made pair of stockings by Jobst.

One person who wears many hats is Diane Godek. Aside from working as a clerk in the pharmacy and a waitress at the fountain, she has also joined A.M.E. as an accredited Orthopedic Appliance Fitter. Diane is married and lives in Agawam with her two sons. She has become quite proficient in this new profession. She and Mrs. Shore have also completed a C.P.R. course given in town.

Agawam Medical Equipment is very busy in the area. They service greater Springfield, offering delivery service and service to Medicare and Medicaid customers and provide services to people in their home or nursing home or in the hospital.

Most exciting is a new concept of dealing with pain. It is called Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulator (T.E.N.S.). Agawam Medical Equipment is an exclusive dealer in this area for the Neuromod® and they work very closely with doctors, physical therapists and nurses. This unit can be rented or bought on prescription only.

They have really expanded the dimensions of health services. It is only natural to wonder in what direction this will all take them. Things are really happening for them and the future looks bright.

Edward and Fredlee Shore

The pharmacy is quite unique to Agawam. It has a full-service luncheonette serving full breakfasts and lunches along with the local gossip and politics at no extra charge. Aside from the normal functions of a full-service pharmacy, this pharmacy is unique to the town in that it is a Western Union Agency; a Western Mass. Electric Collection Station; an entrepreneur in the coin-operated copier business and the key making business. Therefore, it was only natural that over the years of change and growth that another expansion took place: The "Home Care" aspect of the Health Profession. To this

Consultant Pharmacy at the Jewish Nursing Home in Longmeadow.

Mrs. Shore is a graduate of Simmons College and a former Spanish teacher at the East Longmeadow High School. They have two daughters, a son, and a dog named Fuzzy.

The Shores went back to school where they took extensive courses for their new business. They now are accredited Orthopedic Appliance Fitters. This means that they can fit back and leg braces, neck collars, surgical stockings, knee braces and wrist splints. Mrs. Shore has also been specially schooled in the fitting of

Agawam Kindergarten

The Agawam Public Schools will be conducting registration and screening of children entering Kindergarten in September, 1978. Children who will be five (5) years of age or older during the calendar year 1978 are eligible for enrollment in Kindergarten in September, 1978.

Chapter 766, the Massachusetts Special Education Law requires that each school district provide services for identifying children with special needs. Screening is not a test or in-depth evaluation, but an observation of

how a child is growing in different areas of development

A screening Team will be observing growth in vision, hearing, physical development, language, speech, thinking, and behavior. This process will be completed at the time of Kindergarten registration in the five elementary schools in Agawam. Parents who have not already contacted their neighborhood school should do so immediately. Children are screened by appointment only.

Screening dates are as follows: April 24 & 25, at Robinson Park School, April 27 at James Clark School, May 1 at Benjamin Phelps School, May 3 & 4 at Clifford Granger School, and May 5 at Katherine Danahey School.

Should you have any questions contact the principal in the nearest elementary school.



First Graders in Ms. Lisa Astifan's class at Phelps School recently learned what it would be like to be in the hospital. Volunteers from Providence Hospital presented the program for all first graders in the Agawam School System. Pictured left to right are Todd Bousquet, Melissa Blackburn, Jacqueline Nelson, Judi Sweeny, Kernan McPharlin, Nathan Bowers, Susanne LaFleur.

Pediatric Orientation Program

The Providence Hospital Pediatric Orientation Program, run by the auxiliary of the hospital in schools in five area communities, is in full swing at this time according to Mrs. Richard Kulpinski of Holyoke, Chairman.

Mrs. Kulpinski said the auxiliary committee this year has expanded the program to include all first graders in the communities of Agawam, Holyoke, Chicopee, South Hadley, and West Springfield. She said public and parochial schools are visited by members of the committee and an hour long presentation is made to the youngsters preparing them for the eventuality of becoming hospital patients.

The committee uses film strips to show the admitting procedure, hospital tests, an operation, recovery and return home of a young hospital patient. Mrs. Kulpinski described the program as a "valuable learning experience".

This program was recently completed in the Agawam Public School system, with visits to all the elementary schools in town.

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Bloodmobile Schedule

April 11 - Springfield College (Moses Hall, Beveridge Ctr.) 263 Alden St., Springfield, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
April 12 - Springfield College (Moses Hall, Beveridge Ctr.) 263 Alden St., Springfield, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
April 24 - West Springfield Police Dept. (Municipal Office Bldg.), 26 Central St., West Springfield, 1; a.m.-4 p.m.
April 26 - Minnechaug Regional High School (gym), 621 Main St., Wilbraham, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
April 28 - West Springfield High School (stage), 425 Piper Rd., West Springfield, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Spring Preschool Story Hour

The Agawam Public Libraries will begin its annual Spring Preschool Story Hour on Wednesday, April 19, 1978, at 10:00 A.M. Th story hour will run for six consecutive Wednesdays up to May 17, at Agawam Public Library II, 862 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. only.
Pre-registration is required and may be done at either the Agawam Center Library or the APL II Library. All children registered must be at least 3½ years old. There will be coffee and doughnuts for the mothers of the preschoolers. Register now since enrollment is limited due to space limitations.

Cowbell Collection

Currently on exhibit at the Agawam Public Libraries on 733 Main Street and 862 Springfield Street, is an International collection of cowbells. The collection will be on display during the entire month of April.

Assembled by New England Dairy and Food Council, the bells show that milk is considered an important food all over the world. The display is a tribute to world dairy farming. It includes bells from Switzerland, Greece, Africa and various types from New England. In areas of the

Far East, dairy farmers often used teak and bamboo to make bells because metal quickly rusted. Hand-carved wooded clappers were then hung on the outside of the bell to produce a louder tone.

In spite of the endless variety of cowbells, all served the common purpose of protecting their wearers from being lost. Today, however, the dairy farmer knows where every cow is at all times. Thus cowbells, rarely used on the New England countryside, have become collectors' items.

Ride-a-Bike for Mentally Retarded

Spring fever strikes! Play frisbee insteak of studying for exams. Go to the Red Sox

game insteak of to the office. Take your bike out of storage, grease the wheels, tighten the brakes, and take off.

Journey with thousands of others throughout Massachusetts on Sunday, April 30, for the seventh annual "Ride-a-Bike for Mentally Retarded People". The rain date is Sunday, May 7.

The Massachusetts Association for Retard Citizens (MARC) joins with the Massachusetts Teachers Association in sponsoring a ride in communities throughout Massachusetts.

Riders ask for pledges from sponsors for the mileage they cover. Contributions from the ride enable MARC to work for the benefit of the mentally retarded citizens of Mass.

The "Ride-a-Bike for Mentally Retarded People" enables MARC to achieve the best possible services for and safeguard the human and civil rights of mentally retarded people.

Enjoy yourself on a sunny Sunday and help others at the same time. Participate in a ride near you by contacting the Massachusetts Association for Retarded Citizens, 381 Elliot St., Newton Upper Falls, Mass. 02164; telephone (617) 965-5320.

"Life and Breath" Bike-n-Hike

The Western Massachusetts Lung Association will be holding a Bike-n-Hike for "Life and Breath" on Saturday, April 29th. Steve Berra, head of Chapter IV, Massachusetts Society of Respiratory Therapists announced that many of the Respiratory Therapists plan to support the event by riding or hiking the 20 mile route set in the event. Anyone who wishes to participate that day may do so by calling the Western Massachusetts Lung Association at 393 Maple St., Springfield.

Vanishing Species Series

This is a series of essays written by a 6th Grade students from Agawam Middle School. Six of the essays were chosen to be entered into a national contest sponsored by the Fund for Animals. The essays were chosen randomly and will appear on a weekly basis, space permitting.

Giant Panda

by Lena Kozloski

The vanishing species I'd most like to see have a chance at life is the giant panda found in the Chering-lai and Ta-liang Mountains of the Western Szechwan in China. Once killed by humans in the early 1900's, the panda is now protected by the Chinese government in its native environment where bamboo its main food, grows. The number of pandas is small, and they have been difficult to breed in captivity.

Pandas must be kept from being hunted. Previously specimens were sold to museums to be put on display.

The giant panda has a very small population. The region where it lives is very restricted, and since it lives on bamboo found only in this area, the number of giant pandas is fewer.

Not much is known about the breeding of the giant panda in its environment. Only since September, 1963, have giant pandas been born in captivity. There are now only twenty captured specimens, mostly in China.

Since we do not know much about the panda's behavior in its wild habitat, it is very important that the small number that exist be protected from hunting, from losing its food supply, and from extinction because of a low breeding count.

Bald Eagle

by Shawn Keery

Did you ever think about vanishing species? The animal that I thought about was the bald eagle. I think it should get more of a chance at life because it's our nation's symbol. One reason the eagle is dying is because its first flight is a difficult one. Other reasons are illegal hunting, and people hitting animals that the eagles eat.

When eaglets become old enough to try their first flight they must know what to do, or get kikked when they hit. Most eagle nests are at least sixty feet high.

Another problem is illegal hunting. Some people hunt eagles just for the sport. The law is not to even hunt eagles.

Some people do not understand that if they hit an animal they might be hurting an eagle. If someone hits a deer, and an eagle comes by a couple of days later, the eagle would start eating it. Nine out of ten of the animals are covered with maggots, bacteria, flies, etc.

One solution to one of them is instead of just having a law against hunting eagles, have game wardens monitor the woods, and have state troopers inspect every car that goes by. Another solution would be either picking up the injured animal and bring it to the state police, or, call the state police to report a hit animal and wait for them to come. Maybe by these solutions the eagle will get a better chance to survive.

Bald Eagle

by Carol Benson

Vanishing species means a certain animal that is vanishing or dying out on this earth. The vanishing animal I chose to talk about is the bald eagle.

The bald eagle is vanishing because hunters and trappers were killing it in the 1900's. Even though the bald eagle is being protected now pesticides are still killing it.

Hunters and trappers have been shooting the bald eagle. Between 1917 and 1962, 100,000 bald eagles were shot to protect salmon and fur industries. The eagles were shot in Alaska.

Pesticides are still killing them. When pesticides are sprayed it may get into the bald eagles food or into the air it breathes. The National Wildlife Federation has set up a wildlife refuge where bald eagles can make nests and be away from man and his pesticides.

I think bald eagles should be able to soar free without the worry of becoming extinct. I think this problem could be solved by not using harmful pesticides to poison and kill the bald eagle. Since 1962 the bald eagle has been protected from hunters and trappers unlike the early 1917 to 1962 period of killings.

Editor's Note: Carol's essay was one of the six essays done by the students choosen to be submitted to the national contest

JCC Fitness Program

"To avoid disappointment, register early for the following fitness programs," advises Mr. Esther Griggs, Assistant Physical Education Director at the Springfield Jewish Community Center.

Crash Figure Shaping will begin May 9, Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30-11:30 a.m. and will run through June 8. The program consists of a body analyses measuring, weighing, spot reducing, weight control advice, ¼ hour head-to-toe exercises, walking, jogging, cool-off period, followed by a social swim. The health club will be available for those interested for a small fee.

Crash Swim-Nastics, twice a week for one month, starting May 8, Monday and Wednesday, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Non-swimmers perform exercises in the shallow end of the pool. The program consists of one hour of water exercises plus use of the steam, sauna and sun lamp. Those registering should bring bathing suit, soap, towel and shampoo.

Diaper Gym and Swim for mother and child will start

April 25, Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. for 12-36 months of age and April 26, Wednesday, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. 6 months - 12 months of age. Babies must wear cloth diaper and rubber or plastic pants and mothers must participate with the child.

The six-week Tiny Tot Gym and Swim sessions for 3-5 years of age, starts May 3, Monday & Wednesday, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. and May 4, Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. If interest is shown, afternoon classes will be held on Monday and Wednesday; and Tuesday and Thursday, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. The child will develop coordination and improve flexibility and swim instruction will be taught according to their ability.

All programs are open to the public.

A Water Ballet Class will be offered on Tuesday, 7-8 and 8-9 p.m. when registration reaches 8 per class.

Call Mrs. Griggs to register or for further information at 739-4715.

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Sports

Jr. High Divers Excel

by Dan Maruszczak, Jr.

Agawam Jr. High divers were in the limelight last week as Jim McCollum and Barry Gallerani showed their expertise on the board, as they performed difficult dives such as the back-dive flip, the front-dive layout, and the inward-dive pike.

Gallerani exhibited the excellent style that has made him one of the top competitors by drawing points from his perfectly executed flip and half-twist.

On the other hand, McCollum superbly executed

an inward summi (somer-sault), drawing points to his side as well, proving his style is the most intricate in design.

Judges of the event, Joe Bersier, Coach Smith, and Miss Willenbreck showed the excitement and tension of the competition by scoring the two closely, as each category ended in a near-tie.

Next Week: Complete wrap-up of the Junior High finals competition.

Village Lounge Championship

A 57-47 victory over the Columbus Club capped the third straight playoff and regular season championship for the Village Lounge. Coach and sponsor Jim Cressotti used his eight players to the utmost in this hard earned win. Down by eleven in the first half, Jim instituted a full court press that eventually led to victory. Barry Metayer led the scoring with 22, and the ball handling of Mike Redmond and Roy Wright, coupled with Mal Fitzgerald and Joe O'Brien's bounds all contributed to this hard earned victory. Others who played an essential part in the game were Mike Hanscomb, Jeff Carmody, and Jim Cressotti. Dave Wright, leading scorer all season, missed the final game because of a bone chip in his ankle.

The players would sincerely like to thank Jim for sponsoring this team, thus enabling them to enjoy another good season. Wait'll next year!!

YMCA Program

The Metropolitan Springfield YMCA has a host of activities planned for children ages 6 through 12 during the spring school vacation, April 17-22.

The YMCA will sponsor six activities ranging from a visit to the Bronx Zoo, to an overnight camping experience. Each day the children will meet at the Y, and will travel to various places of interest. A visit to Sturbridge Village, flying kites at a Connecticut beach, and a roller skating party give you an idea of the activities planned for children during the vacation week. All activities planned for children during the vacation week. All activities are offered to non-members as well as members.

For more information, call the YMCA at 739-6951.

Touching all Bases

by Dan Maruszczak Jr.

indoor clay courts and schoolyards, the risk increases because of the faster speed of the ball on the concrete.

Not only do tennis buffs suffer from tennis elbow, but President Kennedy suffered it from shaking hands, for instance, along with cases from dart throwers, Las Vegas crap shooters, and common bowlers. There is even a case of a woman suffering a case of tennis elbow from opening a cap on a jar. So beware housewives!

The cause of tennis elbow is blamed on the shock of the ball hitting the racket too severely, causing a vibration to radiate up the racket. To avoid this, metal rackets are recommended, along with gut over nylon strings. The reason for the gut strings is that the gut will absorb the shock a little better than the nylon, which will transfer the

shock up your arm. Another tip for the prevention of tennis elbow is to use proper pressured balls - dead balls just increase your risk of the injury.

Finally, don't forget to warm up before getting onto the courts - if you don't, there's a good chance of tearing a muscle. Warm up before playing, especially now with cooler weather.

But take heart tennis players, after all, bowlers have their thumbs, pitchers have their shoulders, and basketball players have their knees. Tennis players have an affliction almost unique to them, which has grown to world-wide recognition - the tennis elbow.



Guthrie Out Of Swim Competition With Leg Injury

by Dan Maruszczak, Jr.

During the past week, Doug Guthrie, a key swimmer on the Agawam Junior High swim team injured his right leg, forcing him to bow out of further competition. Guthrie suffered a fracture of his right ankle at home. Guthrie had planned on competing in the 100-yard relay, the 50-yard freestyle, and the 100-yard butterfly races. He

was expected to be a prime contender for a title in each of the three categories, clocking a superb time of 32.5 in the 50-yard freestyle race.

The Junior High swim team is anxiously awaiting Guthrie's recuperation, and Guthrie commented, "I should be back swimming in about a month, once I get the cast off."

Guthrie, 14, also swam in competition for the Agawam Piranhas last year, and played on the Junior High football team this past season. He will join his baseball team in the Sacred Heart Athletic Association in a few weeks.

Guthrie's swimming coach, Mr. Smith, commented, "he is a fine swimmer, I hope to see him on the team next year."

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Hawks vs Blazers in Sacred Heart 8-10 Basketball.

photo by Jack Devine

Over Thirty Basketball

Publishers Note: As of press time only four team captains had submitted their requested news for this article. The final Over-Thirty basketball wrap-up is as follows:

UCLA Bruins

Despite having some giants actually measuring 5'9", and one or two players at the 5'10" mark, the U.C.L.A. Bruins managed to be on the short end of their game scores this past season.

Almost all Bruin contests were highlighted by spectacular outside shooting and shortness of breath. Team members singled out for the blame by player/coach John Long, were Vic Carra, Tom McElliott, Walt Porowski, Ray Rouillard, Herm Sandlin, Skip Plyer and Bob LeClair - the whole team.



Roger Brown, coach/player presents Most Valuable Player Award to Jim Grady, center, and Plaque of appreciation to Village Lounge owner Roy Sullivan, right. Grady was chosen MVP by vote of his teammates.

Dan Greene

The Dan Greene's, "over 30" league team finished their season with a 6 and 6 record. The team had no sponsor and consisted of captain, Dan Greene, Jack Luttrell, Norman Dion, Mark Galenas, John Praska, Bill Carabine, George Noonan, and Richie Leo.

The team wishes to extend a special thanks to Jim Mahoney, League President, and to the Agawam Advertiser for its coverage during the season.

Feeding Hills Pharmacy

In the Over 30 Basketball League, the Feeding Hills Pharmacy team finished the season with a record of 11-1. The team members are Al Belniak, rebounder, Bob Belniak, guard and high scorer, Ed Malachowski, Jerry O'Brien, Ray Crawley, Frank Grimaldi, Bob Zancan, Gene Pavoni, Bob St. Marie.

Village Lounge

In their first year, the "B" team got off to a slow start of 1-2. Once the players got accustomed to the rules and new players, however, the Lounge reeled off nine straight victories and earned second place finish. The two highlights of the season were breaking the 25 game winning streak of the Feeding Hills Pharmacy, and in the last game of the season, scoring 100 points.

During the season, the Lounge was led by Jim Grady and Wayne "Moose" Morse, who, along with Bill Lynch

and Don "Lefty" Savaria, controlled the boards and also contributed much in scoring. The floor game was in the able hands of Dale Witiver and Bob Guevin, who came up with steady games all season.

Others who played so well to make this first season a success were Bob Carter, Dan O'Brien, Jack Ferioli, Skip Holcomb, and coach Roger Brown.

Much thanks and good luck to Jim Cressotti of the Village Lounge who made this season possible.

Special Needs Camp Funded

The Agawam Town Council approved \$15,000 for a summer camp for handicapped children. The state is expected to reimburse half the camp cost. This will be the second year of the camp which will service 40 Agawam children who are severely retarded, emotionally disturbed, or have multiple physical handicaps.

Applications for children to attend this special 7 week camp at the Junior High School facility will be available at the Parks and Recreation office. Deadline for returning the applications will be April 30th.

Applications will also be available at the Parks and Recreation office for eight paid positions on the camp staff. Complete job descriptions are available at the Parks office, the following positions are open: Camp Director, a 11 week position at \$102.25 per week. Three senior counselors, 9 week

positions, one for Physical Education, one for Arts and Crafts, and the third for Aquatics; three junior counselors, one in each section is also needed. The senior counselors positions pay is \$90.75 per week, for 9 weeks, junior counselors list for \$77.70.

A Health Counselor is needed for 8 weeks at \$90.75 per week, this person supervises first aid and all health needs, candidates should be certified emergency medical technologist; and a speech therapist for 24 hours per week at \$7.50 per hour. Applications for these paid positions must be returned by April 30th. All applicants are interviewed.

A large number of volunteers are also needed. Many of the campers need supervision on a one-to-one basis. Please contact the Parks and Recreation office for further information.

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Retreads

The Retreads completed a successful season (no injuries as in other years) with a 6 and 6 record in the "over 30" men's basketball league. Eight original over 30 league members were joined by two newcomers to have a fine year. Led by the heavy scoring of Mike Simpson, Neil Leighton, Ray Beaudin and new member Kevin Hourihan, other team members, Captain Pete Hanson, Ken Gladu, Fred Barber, Dick Atkinson, Joe Smitzer and newcomer Ted Tremblay joined in to form a balanced team.

All members thank the understanding wives left behind each Sunday morning. It was fun for everyone to think they were young again.

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75 SCOUT V8, AT, PS, #076A	4495
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Sportsmen's Corner

By Bill Chiba



Spring is here and to back up the statement is the announcement that the archery tournament season will commence on April 16 at the Lincoln Bowmen range in Easthampton, Mass. Registration will open at 8 a.m. and close at 1 p.m. The archery shoot is sponsored by the Massachusetts Bare Bow Archery Association.

The Agawam Bowmen will hold two shoots this year. The first will be held at the club grounds off Rt. 57, Southwick, April 30th. Registration will open at 8 a.m. and close at 1 p.m. Refreshments will be available and awards will be given in each class. The tournament is open to the public.

The Massachusetts Bare Bow Archery Association is made up of fourteen archery clubs located within an hour drive of Springfield. Tournaments are held every Sunday during the shooting year. This year the season starts the 16th of April and runs through the month of September.

Tournament

schedules can be obtained at participating clubs and at the first tournaments held in the early part of the year.

The monthly meeting of Magawa Sporting Club will be held Tuesday, April 11, at the club house off Adams Street, Agawam, Mass.

Streams are flowing at the right levels now for some good trout fishing. The Division personnel have been busy stocking them this past week. Stocking of ponds is still spotty because of the acid content of some of them and the lack of free water near the shorelines. Ice should start going out within the next week and a half. I finally have the fever and lifted the canvas from my sixteen ft. Starcraft. New points and a generous lubrication of all moving parts is in order on the motors. Of course, the wife had something to do with the fever for fishing taking hold. She is stomping at the "bit". We might end up going east of the Conn. river soon for open water fishing in the Sturbridge area.

Energy Crisis

Dixville Notch, N.H., is about to become one of the first communities in the country to be completely lighted and partially heated

with wood. A boiler will be fueled with wood chips from local logging and pulp mill operations and will power turbines to produce electricity for a rubber company, a 240-room hotel, a ski area, a country club and the town's half-dozen homes. The hotel and rubber company will be heated entirely with steam.

Looking for Help

The Survey Research Laboratory at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign is trying to locate people who own or operate a windmill used to generate electricity. The study is being undertaken for the U.S. Energy Department to determine the state of wind energy use today and its future possibilities. If you know of anyone, please send names and addresses to: Robert Ferber or Diane O'Rourke, Survey Research Laboratory, University of Ill., 414 David Kinley Hall, Urbana, Ill. 61801.

Fall Sports

Signups

Sign ups for Fall Sports girls and boys soccer, football and cheerleading will be held on Saturday, April 15th, at the Middle School Cafeteria from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Because of the ever growing popularity in all team sports, coaches and helpers are badly needed. The Parks and Recreation can provide the opportunity for your child but you, the volunteers who coach and work directly with the kids make success happen. If help cannot be obtained, some children will lose out in this learning experience.

For those who would like to coach in the soccer program, a clinic to teach the basics of soccer will be set up.

For the first time in 35 years, the high schools and the local colleges will be playing under separate rules starting with next season. The changes won't be drastic, but the difference is expected to show in the grade of basketball play.

With the basketball season over, the National Basketball Committee of the United States and Canada, decided to interpret new rules for high schools and colleges throughout the country, under pressure from groups want-

ing separate rules for the different levels of play. The committee has previously written rules for NCAA, NAIA, junior colleges, and high school basketball competition.

How will this effect Agawam? First of all, the usual controversies surrounding some of the past Brownie hoop games will be cleared up with this coming 1978/79 season.

For example, during a previous Junior High girls basketball game, a whistle was blown against the Brownies and possession was given to the opponents at the time, Amherst. The reason for the penalty was because the Agawam girls team failed to move the ball across the midcourt line before a 30 second clock had run out. A protest was filed by the coach, Toni Veronisi, against the referee's call, since she claimed that a 30-second clock did not pertain to Junior High School competition. Veronisi won the ruling, but the Amherst coach threatened protest if the game went in favor of the Brownies. The Brownies went on to win, and surprisingly, no protest was filed by the opposing coach.

This was just one instance that basketball rules have been misunderstood on different levels of competition.

In the future, colleges and high schools will have their rules, not necessarily different, but will have separate rule books for each book.

The breakup between the high schools and colleges is due to the feelings of the high school organizations wishing their own rules of play.

According to Edward Steitz, athletic director of Springfield College, and a national rules interpreter for the past several years, added "The high school people are not happy with the dunk, although they voted for it when it was put in". He went on to explain that they want a less physical game than colleges, and want a better revision of the time clock.

Steitz is continuing as the editor for the NCAA, and worked with a ten-man committee last week to improve the game of local colleges.

Dictating the new high school rules will be Bernie Saggau, executive secretary of the Iowa High School Federation.

The future of high school basketball rules is up to the Basketball Committee, and what rules will get their approval. Whatever the outcome, Agawam hoop players will be competing next year under a slightly different rule book.



Sacred Heart 8-10 Blazers Coached by Mike Delizo [left] and Tom Featherstone [right]. Plyers first row left to right are John Ferrell, Barry Felix, Jim Vignani, Steve Stewart and second row left to right are Tom Lepore, Dom Delizia, Mike McCarthy, Scott Stewart and Paul Featherstone.

photo by Jack Devine

Schoolboy Hoop Rules Revised

by Dan Maruzczak Jr.



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Down to Earth

by Janet Cook



April is a month of flowers and more flowers. Easter came early this year and brought with it beautiful potted flowers for sale in almost every store. Now that you have this lovely new friend... what do you do with it? While it is still green and full of flowers, no problem at all. It is when the leaves begin to yellow and the flowers wither that we begin to worry. Tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, and the like can go on giving year after year if you do the right thing now. After bloom, keep the leaves growing as long as you can. Plan to put the bulbs out in a garden when true spring arrives. Put the container the bulbs are in in a cool place (50-55 degrees) Never remove the leaves until they are brown and lift from the plant as easily as a piece of paper. These leaves manufacture food and store it in the bulb for next season's growth in your garden.

You should have already started loosening the winter protection or mulch around bushes and in the flower beds. In the flower beds, is where you must be very gentle. Tiny new shoots of perennials are there and easily damaged by a heavy hand on the rake. Now is the time to clean these beds up and fertilize over your mulch. An application of 5-10-5 is a good idea, for it will stimulate sturdy root growth and assure a fountain of flowers later.

Both your needled and broadleaved evergreens probably still look a little drab, even though new growth is on its way. In the cold soil of early spring, soil-applied fertilizers are not going to get to your evergreens right away. Soil microorganisms, necessary to convert your fertilizer, are inactive in cold soil. A foliage feeding is the answer. Try application of a liquid food (10-8-7) sprayed on the leaves. There are products designed for this type of feeding and the results are amazing.

Rose pruning can make a lot of us swallow hard and scratch our heads. April is the month to get the job done. Having removed any winter protection, wrappings or mounds of soil or mulch from around the base of the bush, work fertilizer lightly into the soil and water if the soil is dry. The easiest method for cutting back roses in the spring, if you are in doubt about it, is to cut all thick canes back to about 14" and remove all tiny, thin or spindly side shoots on these canes. Don't be too hasty to condemn a bush that looks dead. Cut it back and wait. Tiny leaf nodes often develop rapidly after the first cutting back. In a short time you will know if you have cut enough off. Don't be afraid to cut back even farther if dead stubs show above your previous cuts. For rosier roses try this: Apply one handful of Epsom Salt around each bush (that is alive), scratch it into the soil, and water. Sound like a strange thing to feed a rose? Epsom salt is magnesium sulfate. Plants require small amounts of this to produce chlorophyll. A glossier, darker and healthier looking foliage will be the result. Magnesium also increases plant resistance to disease. The tips I have mentioned for pruning are mostly for tea roses, floribundas and the like. Next week I will try to help those who have climbers, ramblers and shrub roses with their pruning chore. Try these companion plants, planted near your roses. Garlic to help repel aphids, geraniums for jap beetles, and parsley to help repel rose beetles.

Next week: tips to help with growing more beautiful Iris, asparagus hints, and a helping hand for your lilacs.

KEEP SMILING!
JMC

Pets, Which One For You?

Pets can come in all shapes and sizes with one being right for you. Aside from dogs, cats, and gerbils, what animals are available to become lovable and friendly pets? Mr. Steve O'Neil from the Mass. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will answer this and other questions at the Science Museum's Family Morning Program on Saturday, April 15. The program will provide tips on animal care and training, owner responsibility

and the kind of enjoyment pets can bring to your home. The pros and cons of exotic animals such as snakes, monkeys and lizards as pets will also be explored.

Family Mornings are free of charge and held in the Tolman Auditorium every Saturday at 11:15 a.m. For further information and upcoming programs, please call the museum's education department at 732-7911 or 732-4317.

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